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Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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Working Group on Firearms
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Draft Report

Addendum

III. Summary of deliberations (*continued*)

1. At its 2nd meeting, on the afternoon of 2 May, the Working Group continued its deliberation of agenda item 2. Many speakers emphasized the importance of effective and timely training for law enforcement, customs and border officials on the detection of illicitly trafficked firearms, their parts and components and ammunition. It was also stated that training was needed in order to strengthen capacities of judiciary to properly prosecute and adjudicate firearms trafficking and related offences. Several speakers also mentioned the challenges caused by illicit trafficking along long borders and by sea. Several speakers underlined the importance of cooperating with the private sector on improving the marking of firearms, particularly with regard to information-sharing and the establishment of best practices.

2. Many speakers shared their national experiences in addressing the links between organized crime and terrorism, which in many cases were mutually reinforcing, as terrorist groups increasingly engaged in transnational organized criminal activities in order to finance their terrorist activities, including through illicit trafficking in firearms and drugs and human trafficking. The need to respond to the challenge posed by the use of the dark net for illicit firearms trafficking was also noted. Moreover, many speakers stated that, along with firearms, authorities in their countries had also seized a large number of explosives.

3. The Working Group also exchanged information on national efforts to adopt or review legislation that implemented the Firearms Protocol as well as other relevant legal instruments. Several speakers noted that these efforts had been supported by UNODC and by other international and regional organizations, and called for enhanced technical assistance, from both intergovernmental organizations and other States. Cooperation within regional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the EU, G5 Sahel and the Organization of American States (OAS) was mentioned in the context of enhancing international cooperation. Many speakers also shared their experience on enhancing the effectiveness of tracing, including through continuous information exchange.

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IV. Organization of the meeting

B. Statements (*continued*)

4. Under agenda item 2, statements were made by representatives of the following States parties to the Firearms Protocol: Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, European Union, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru and Turkey. Statements under the item were also made by the observers for Chad and Indonesia.